

January 9, 1932.

My dear Bishop Vehr:-

Your letter to the Most Reverend Bishop in reference to Father W. B. Pipp was received at the Chancery Office, and as the Bishop is still in the hospital, I am using this excuse to send you the answer.

Father Pipp belonged to the Paulists for several years and is a priest of good character, so far as is known in Detroit. His home was in Grand Rapids, he is a brother of the famous Wallie Pipp, the ball player, and their family was well known to Bishop Gallagher when he was in Grand Rapids. For this reason, Father Pipp appealed to the Bishop to incardinate him and also permit him to go on with his missionary work. It was intended that he would devote his time to what was called the Detroit Apostolate in the churches of this Diocese. He did do some work here, off and on, but soon began to accept invitations in different parts of the country, from old friends where he had probably given Paulist Missions, previously. He really never became, in spirit, a priest of the Diocese, and he acted more or less as a freelance. Nothing definite ever has been known about his work other than what we may have heard, from time to time, through other sources.

He is a good speaker and seems to be well liked by those who know him. For some time past he has complained about his health and preferred to remain in California. In accepting him, Bishop Gallagher really did a favor for old times sake, but that is about the extent of his connections here. I am sure that there would be no objection if you thought favorably of accepting his services in Denver. He is not a floater type, and I believe he is capable of splendid work along his line, if properly directed. He should be anchored in one place with definite work assigned to him and not permitted to make himself a national apostolate with no account given to anyone.

This is the confidential estimate of him as he is known in the Chancery Office.

Recently he wrote to the Bishop stating that he wished to return to Detroit, but at the same time he feared for his health, so that I believe his physical reason is genuine.

The fifty copies of the Denver Catholic Register were received three or four times and placed in our book rack. They were all taken each time, so in spite of the fact that they come from Denver, they must enjoy some degree of popularity in these parts. I believe it would be well to have Father Smith continue sending them and you might instruct him to forward the bill to me. Over a period of two or three months we may judge whether the order should be increased.

Bishop Gallagher's arm is progressing slowly. He is hoping that in the near future he may get away from Detroit, and I think, according to his present plans, he would like to land in Havana.

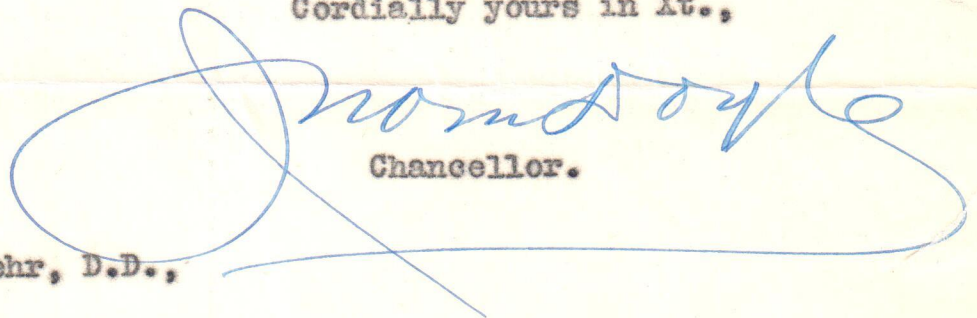
I am glad the holidays are over. We were terribly rushed around here and I am behind in plenty of my work. I hope to get down to Hot Springs the latter part of next month, for my annual wash-up.

I hope you are keeping real well and that the responsible burdens of state are not weighing too heavily upon you.

With kindest personal regards and best wishes for a Blessed New Year, I remain,

Cordially yours in Xt.,

JMD/IGS



Chancellor.

Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, D.D.,
Bishop of Denver,
Denver, Colorado.